

KENT ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
Mid-term Monitoring May 2014

Introduction

This report represents the mid-term review of the Kent Environment Strategy (KES). The report incorporates progress from across all three themes of the KES, and through the many actions within each theme represents a number of projects, individuals and public authorities. This year's mid-term review has also included some highlights from a number of local district authorities.

This is the last monitoring before a full review of the Strategy is undertaken over the period of September 2014 to June 2015, during which all actions and targets will be updated or amended accordingly, and will also include a review of Climate Local Kent (CLK) targets and incorporate learning from the existing KES and CLK.

An overview of the planned review schedule is:

- August / September 2014 – Full review of current activity and assessment of European, national and local drivers and activity (PESTEL analysis);
- September – December 2014– Workshops and sector conversations to review priorities ;
- January 2015 – Draft updated Kent Environment Strategy;
- Feb/Mar 2015 – Draft circulated from comment and peer review;
- April 2015 – Final draft;
- June/July 2015 – Sign up across partners (post-election).

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Theme 1 Living within our environmental limits

There are a number of targets set out in the Kent Environment Strategy (KES) and Climate Local Kent (CLK) that are there to help monitor progress and drive forward the core themes of the Strategy. The following pages give an overview of progress toward KES and CLK targets, and the individual actions that have contributed toward the delivery of Theme 1. Some of the actions remain unchanged from the last full annual review, however all actions and targets will be reviewed at the end of 2014.

Targets from KES and CLK are presented first, followed by progress on actions and then finally some key highlighted updates from a number of local authorities. An overall progress rating of red, amber or green (RAG) is given for each action and that is based on the overall status and progress of each of the individual sub-actions. The overall RAG rating for Theme 1 is amber.

Overall progress toward targets

- **We will work with our ECO pilot areas to retrofit 1,200 homes by December 2014 and bring in £12m to Kent through the ECO by 2015 (this aligns to Action EF1.1 and Climate Local Kent)**

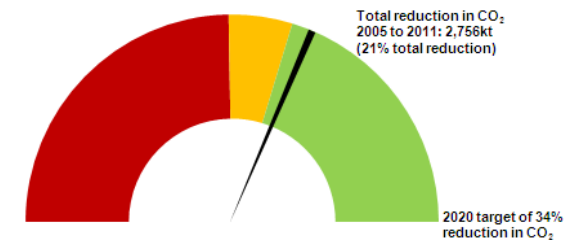
Work on ECO Warm Homes was initiated in May 2013; at the time of this report 973 properties have had over 1000 measures installed; those figures include 96 installations in over 90 homes through HHCRO and Winter Warmth.

- **We will support activity to reduce water consumption in Kent from 160 to 140 litres per person per day by 2016 (this aligns to Actions EF1.1, EF2.1 and Climate Local Kent)**

The years 2007 to 2011 saw the per capita consumption of water for Kent and Medway at 160 litres. The per capita data were reported in a summary report titled "[The State of Water in Kent](#)", produced by the Environment Agency and available on request. Currently no new data are available and an approach to this will be explored during 2014, which will also be used to help inform on the review of the KES and CLK targets.

- **We will work towards a 34% reduction in emissions by 2020, which is a 2.6% reduction per year (aligns to Actions EF1.3 and Climate Local Kent)¹**

Across the KCC area overall CO₂ emissions have shown a reduction of 21% (2,756kt) since 2005. With the exception of 2006 and 2010, year on year emissions have met our target reduction of 2.6% or more. 2011 estimates show that the largest proportion of CO₂ emissions are attributable to the Industrial and Commercial sector (40%) followed by the Transport (34%) and Domestic (28%) sectors. DECC divides the data set into sectors, which are listed below:



¹ CO₂ estimate across local authority areas are provided by DECC for 2005 to 2011, it is those data that have been used to assess progress toward the reduction target. Data from pre-2005 is not consistent at a local level and so 2005 is used by DECC and this report as the baseline.

Industrial and Commercial sector²

In 2011 the Industrial and Commercial sector in the KCC area produced 4,012kt of CO₂ which is a 373kt (8.5%) reduction on the previous year. Since 2008 this sector has seen the largest reduction in emissions, over 1,900kt, the largest reduction is seen from Gravesham with a difference of 380kt (66%). However, during this period some local authorities, such as Gravesham and Dartford saw old industrial sites/machinery removed, demolished or redeveloped which may explain the large reduction. Dover and Swale also saw relatively high reductions in CO₂ during 2008-2009 of 201kt (52%) and 177kt (16%) respectively.

Transport sector³

There was a small increase in CO₂ emissions from the transport sector in 2011 of 2.95kt (<1% increase) compared to 2010 levels; this however follows a consecutive three years of reductions in emissions. On a district level the highest transport emissions for 2011 are for Sevenoaks (521kt) followed by Tonbridge and Malling (431kt) and Maidstone (412kt). All other districts are under 350kt.

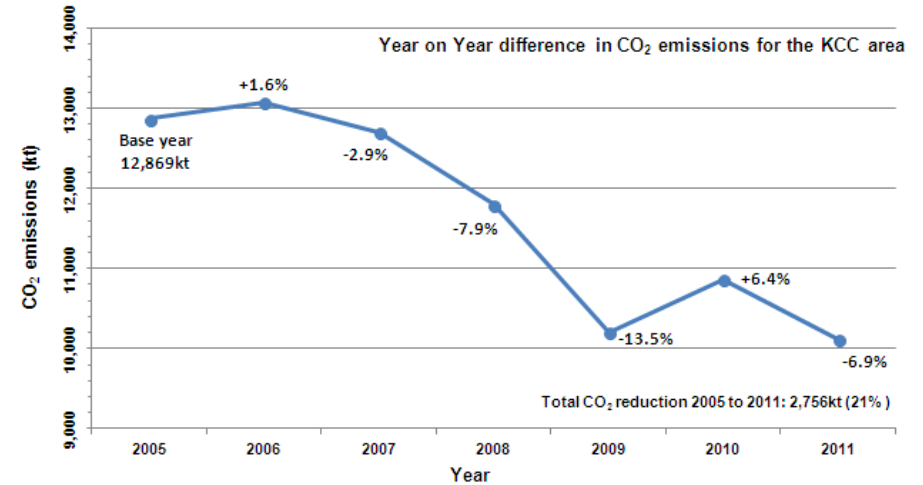
Domestic sector⁴

Domestic emissions in Kent for 2011 showed a reduction of 370kt (12%) from the previous year where emissions were 3,178kt. Overall emissions since 2005 have shown a decreasing trend, however in 2010 there was an increase of 7% from 2,951kt in 2009 to 3,178kt in 2010. This trend of a rise and then a subsequent reduction in emissions is replicated across all local authorities in Kent and across the UK. DECC suggest that this has resulted mainly from a reduction in the use of natural gas. Domestic emissions are also influenced by external temperatures, and 2011 was, on average, warmer than 2010. This caused a decrease in demand for space heating in 2011, which resulted in a decrease in emissions from domestic gas use.

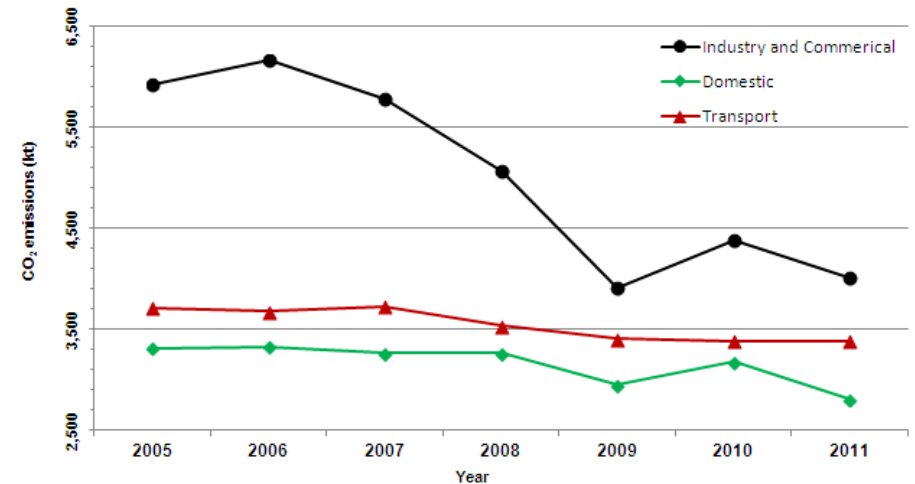
² These data are dominated by industrial and commercial electricity consumption.

³ These data include freight and passenger transport, both private and for business purposes. The estimates are made on the basis of the distribution of traffic, therefore some of the emissions within an authority represent through traffic, or part of trips into or out of the area whether by residents or non-residents.

⁴ These include emissions from energy consumption in and around the home. They do not include activities by private individuals such as personal travel.



Source data: DECC Official Statistics - Local Authority CO₂ emissions



Source data: DECC Official Statistics - Local Authority CO₂ emissions

Local air quality targets (*these align to Theme 1 Action EF2.2 and Theme 2 CC5.2*)

Although not part of Climate Local Kent (CLK) targets, air quality is reported here as it is a cross-cutting theme. A report on local air quality and targets is produced annually through the [Kent and Medway Air Quality Monitoring Network](#)⁵; the latest report covers the 2012 period. Some highlights from the report are listed below:

- Overall air quality targets are reported to have been met. There are some exceptions with NO₂ and ground level O₃; these are summarised separately below.
- Concentrations of CO have remained below the EU Air Quality Directive limit value for 14 years. A decreasing trend started in 1998, but was broken by an increase during 2011. Concentrations decreased again in 2012.
- During 2012 annual means for PM10 decreased at several sites, following an increase in 2010 to 2011. Concentrations of particulate matter were higher at roadside sites than at background sites because of the impacts of road traffic.

Specific areas that have not met air quality targets are summarised in the table below:

Location	Measure	Reason for failure
Canterbury	O ₃	Daily maximum 8-hour running mean > 100 µgm-3 on more than 10 days: 32
Dartford Bean interchange roadside	NO ₂	Annual Mean > 40 µgm-3: 51
Dartford St Clements Roadside	NO ₂	Annual Mean > 40 µgm-3: 51
Dartford Town Centre Roadside	NO ₂	Annual Mean > 40 µgm-3: 55
Dartford Town Centre Roadside	NO ₂	Hourly Mean > 200 µgm-3 for more than 18 times per year: 91
Maidstone A229 Kerbside	NO ₂	Annual Mean > 40 µgm-3: 46
Maidstone Rural	O ₃	Daily maximum 8-hour running mean > 100 µgm-3 on more than 10 days: 13
Rochester Stoke	O ₃	Daily maximum 8-hour running mean > 100 µgm-3 on more than 10 days: 16
Tonbridge Roadside	NO ₂	Annual Mean > 40 µgm-3: 47
Tonbridge Wells	NO ₂	Annual Mean > 40 µgm-3: 44

Source of data: <http://www.kentair.org.uk/>

⁵ <http://www.kentair.org.uk/index>

Overall progress toward actions

EF1.1: We will simplify the energy and water efficiency support landscape for Kent residents and support development of and access to, finance mechanisms such as the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO)

Action	Progress	RAG
Establish Kent and Medway Green Deal Partnership (KMGDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The KMGDP has been rebranded as the Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership (KMSEP); they continue to drive the retrofit agenda forward in Kent and Medway. The KMGDP were successful in acquiring the DECC Green Deal Pioneers Fund, which was aimed primarily at promoting and testing the implementation of Green Deal and ECO schemes across Kent and Medway. Through the Fund five domestic open homes and, through additional KCC funding three open community buildings have successfully been retrofitted. These buildings serve as retrofit demonstration properties. In addition, the funding was used to offer and complete 159 free Green Deal domestic assessments, two Energy Champion training courses, and through an online survey assess the appetite from business for the Green Deal. 	AMBER
Develop a KMGDP Action Plan	Completed in 2013	
Review Kent housing data to establish potential for area based, street-by-street projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a continuing review of Kent housing stock. 	
Procure an ECO funding provider and deliver ECO projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2013, Enterprise Utility Services (Enterprise) were contracted as a provider for the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) funding. KMSEP partners have been working with that provider to deliver pilot retrofit projects in, which have been initiated in districts of Dartford, Dover, Gravesham, Maidstone, Medway and Swale. However, Enterprise has been unable to deliver a Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation (HHCRO) stream of funding (the ECO Affordable Warmth). In response the KMGDP have been working with Aran Services since December 2013 to deliver on this aspect of ECO. At present the Warm Homes scheme is on hold as the Governments' recently announced changes to the funding for energy efficiency measures have affected the funding available and Enterprise have withdrawn from the framework agreement. The Kent and Medway Sustainable Energy Partnership are working on ensuring any 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>residents who have expressed an interest in the scheme are kept informed and are developing a new procurement framework for future delivery of Phase 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent County Council, on behalf of KMSEP is looking at appointing a number of Green Deal/ECO providers to deliver further retrofit measures to the domestic and non-domestic sector. That final framework(s) will be available for use by all local authorities in Kent and Medway. The current provider for ECO across Kent and Medway is Enterprise. 	
Deliver consistent messages for Kent residents around retrofitting through Warm Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm Homes look and feel design complete. • Approach to communications agreed across Partners 	
Develop a network of local accredited SMEs to install measures and assess properties for Green Deal and ECO.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise were supported in attending a number of 'Meet the Buyer Events' which were held to inform local businesses about the opportunities available to them through the ECO project. The events were also used to encourage businesses to engage with Enterprise on ECO. • The sustainable business team within KCC continue to maintain an active register of Kent SMEs online and through LinkedIn. • SMEs wanting to become Green Deal accredited installers or advisors may be eligible for grant support through Low Carbon Plus (see Action Theme 2 CC6.5), which is part of Low Carbon Kent. • 339 Green Deal accredited Kent businesses are registered on the Green Deal Oversight and Registry Body (Green Deal ORB). Of these businesses 273 are certified Green Deal installers and 63 are accredited Green Deal assessors. 	
Procure or partner a Green Deal Funding Provider depending on the best offer for Kent residents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new procurement framework will include a route to signpost residents to Green Deal Providers. 	
Involve water companies in the KMGDP and ECO pilots (behavioural messages and small measures)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Energy Savers information pack has been produced by KCC which includes water efficiency; training, which has also been delivered to a network of professional energy champions also includes references to water efficiency. • Water companies are represented on the KMSEP and further links are being investigated for future work on Warm Homes. 	
Review potential for non-domestic properties, e.g., non-residential domiciliary provision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three community buildings have been retrofitted. • A review is still needed once the process is clarified. 	

A number of local authorities across the Districts have been involved with domestic sector retrofitting projects outside of ECO Warm Homes Programme; a few examples of activity are highlighted below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council runs a Landlord Accreditation Scheme, which is a voluntary scheme involving the certification of both the property and the landlord to demonstrate that they meet an agreed standard. • Within public sector housing, a number of schemes have been undertaken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upgrading of existing gas fired central heating systems in around 200 individual homes from SEDBUK⁶ F to SEDBUK A. ○ Conversion of around 25 properties currently on electric, solid fuel or oil over to mains gas including the installation of new supplies. ○ Six air source heat pumps have been installed into non-gas areas for exiting housing stock; new control systems were also installed in Sheltered Units to help reduce energy usage. • The Council intends on being involved with any future Warm Homes programme work.
Dartford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A normal boiler replacement programme is run for Dartford Borough Council Housing Stock. The Council has been successful in securing Green Deal Communities funding totalling £4m, working in partnership with Sevenoaks and Dover District Councils and KCC. It is a highly targeted, hard to treat, street-by-street scheme that plans to deliver over 2,000 Green Deal assessments and associated energy plans over the duration of the project, which is targeted in specific areas of the Dartford and Sevenoaks. The funding, which is primarily capital funding, will then be used to significantly reduce the costs of installation of energy efficiency measures for approximately 600 solid walled

⁶ SEDBUK - Seasonal Efficiency of Domestic Boilers in the UK rating

Local authority	Activity
	households. In addition, a proportion of the funding will be used to support a training and up-skilling programme for local people and SMEs in the retrofit sector.

EF1.2: We will ensure that new public buildings are water and energy efficient and incorporate resilience to severe weather and climate change into building design where practical and viable to do so.

Action	Progress	RAG
Incorporate public buildings into Kent Design and identify standards for water and energy efficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A detail of the standards has been started those will be refined and integrated into a wider review of capital process. Over the next period an investigation into how capital budgets are derived for new builds and test known spend levels for different sustainability standards will be undertaken. Sustainable design specifications are being drafted for use with KCC capital projects. Further work is due to commence to review the process and how whole life costs and income from FiTs⁷ and RHI could influence capital budget decisions. 	AMBER

EF1.3: We will maximise climate resilience, energy and water efficiency of existing public sector capital assets through rationalisation and retrofit.

Action	Progress	RAG
Share learning and undertake a quarterly review of opportunities for maximising energy and water efficiency and building resilience in the public sector estate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update 	AMBER
Facilitate access to finance and funding and developing new mechanisms where needed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update 	
Public sector efficiency improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an ongoing programme of investment in energy efficiency projects corporate, school buildings and street lighting across KCC. This work also includes collation of corporate estate water data, which will assist in targeted improvements where consumption is higher than good practice. These data 	

⁷ FiTs – Feed-in-Tariff and RHI – Renewable Heat Incentive

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>are expected in June 2014.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A business case for a biomass pilot has been approved for selected schools– the next phase of work will progress this from procurement through to completion. A review of various funding options for retrofit projects has been completed. The next step will be to secure decisions on use of alternative funding mechanisms. 	Yellow
Review opportunities from the RHI and FITs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of estate wide LED lighting, and renewable energy project opportunities will be undertaken over the next period, this will be to secure extra income from the feed-in-tariff (FIT) or renewable heat incentive (RHI) schemes. 	

A number of local authorities across the Districts have reported on how they have been improving the efficiency of their buildings and facilities; a few examples of activity are highlighted below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2013 the Council agreed to invest approximately £60,000 in energy efficiency measures for the council's own buildings, including the installation of 900 LED light bulbs and improved sub-metering so that the Council could better understand how it uses energy. 2013/14 a new combined heat and power (CHP) plant was installed to service the Stour Centre Leisure Facility and the Council's office.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canterbury City Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council are replacing traditional fluorescent tube lighting at their main offices in Canterbury with LED lighting. A Defender water filter installation is planned for the beach pool at the Kingsmead Leisure Centre, and also installation of LED emergency lighting.
Dartford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dartford Borough Council have upgraded a number of Council Housing Blocks to LED lighting and used low energy light fittings in about 500 property rewires.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an ongoing LED lighting retrofit project at Council offices at Whitfield; which includes the replacement of 787 conventional lights fitting for LEDs. As part of the scheme desk lamps and up-lighters are being removed.

Local authority	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is planning to build two three-bedroom houses in Elvington and eight half-bedroom flats in Dover. Both builds will be highly insulated and built to Sustainable Code 3; the houses will benefit from wood burning stoves and solar PV will be installed for the landlord supply to the flats in Dover; SUDS⁸ paving will be installed at both sites. • Beechwood Business Park Offices have been built to Passivhaus standards. • A planning application has been submitted for a Maritime Academy (Whitfield) to be built with sustainability in mind – the project will include a range efficiency measures from rain water harvesting to insulation and a biomass boiler.
Sevenoaks District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sevenoaks and White Oak leisure centres have had combined heat and power (CHP) units installed.
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy efficiency measures have been installed across a number of buildings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ LED lights have been installed in Swale House; ○ Secondary glazing and window openers installed at the Healthy Living Centre, Sheerness; ○ Triple glazed roof lights installed at Sheppey Leisure Sports Hall.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new LED lighting system has been installed at a tennis centre at Tunbridge Wells Sports Centre. In the first month of operation there has been a 30% reduction in electricity consumption for the building, annual CO₂ emission savings are estimated to be in the region of 90 tonnes per year. • The newly built Hawkenbury Pavilion has incorporated a biomass boiler for space and water heating and will be fully commissioned in the next few of months (2014). • The renewal of the cremators at the Kent and Sussex Crematorium has incorporated heat recovery technology.

⁸ SUDS – sustainable drainage system

EF2.1: Help the public and business sector respond to the opportunities and challenges of the national planning policy framework (NPPF) to ensure that new developments are resource efficient, with low running costs.

Action	Progress	RAG
Incorporate sustainability and climate change into the review and update of Kent Design to support the NPPF sustainability policies and the outcomes of the Housing Standards review.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An online resource is being developed for planning, sustainability and health professionals to support the integration of health and sustainability into planning decisions; the project has been funded by Public Health. The work will ensure strong links between existing resources and improve collaborative working across officers. Development of the online resource is due in July 2014 with an official launch expected September 2014. Monitoring will continue for changes to planning case law, and emerging Government guidance and regulations related to planning. 	AMBER
Facilitate discussions between public and private sector to develop a consistent and pragmatic approach to achieving resource efficiencies.	No update	
Undertake Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) for new developments to ensure that issues such as impact of transport infrastructure on sustainability and co-benefits on lifestyles such as physical activity and mental health are addressed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic, social and environmental factors are considered in all planning and commissioning to ensure that new developments, or regeneration projects, improve and protect the health and wellbeing of the population. 	

A number of local authorities across the Districts have reported on how they have been considering sustainability within planning policy and decision making; a few examples of that activity are highlighted below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability is addressed within the local authority Core Strategy which includes sustainable design and construction, biodiversity and geological conservation and, flood risk. In addition, the Council has issued supplementary planning guidance on sustainable design and construction, and on public green spaces and water. The Council plans on implementing standards for sustainable design and construction with a new development of 5,750 properties at Chilmington Green, Ashford. The sustainable aspects are planned to

Local authority	Activity
	include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Efficient energy provision such as combined heat and power (CHP); ○ Inclusion of water saving measures such as water butts; ○ Planting of over 4,000 trees on the development.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of its new local plan, Canterbury City Council has proposed water efficiency standards that go beyond national expectations. It is also proposing a policy that will seek to ensure a significant take up of CHP, with biomass CHP encouraged in particular. • Climate change resilience will be improved through a green infrastructure network, construction and design measures to eliminate unacceptable flood risk; ensuring water efficiency is an integral part of design and adopting Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS).
Dartford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies within the Core Strategy were prepared along with a sustainability appraisal to assess its environmental, social and economic impacts and ensure the strategy and policies are sustainable. • Central to the Core Strategy is the identification of priority areas for development with preference given to large strategic, previously developed or damaged sites so as to allow new housing and other types of development to be sustainably planned and with the necessary supporting infrastructure. Policy examples: managing transport demand, minimising carbon emissions, code for sustainable development and BREEAM requirements, and water management and efficiency.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sustainability appraisal has been undertaken as part of the preparation of the Council's Adopted Core Strategy, which sets out the development within the District up to 2016. As part of the development of an evidence base, a Renewable Energy and Sustainable Development study was commissioned; which is available on the Council's website. As part of that strategy, new residential developments to meet the Code for Sustainable Homes. • The Council sometimes requests travel plans for major development proposals in order to demonstrate how the development would reduce the need for employees to travel; the effectiveness of these requests is

Local authority	Activity
	not yet quantified.
Sevenoaks District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability is considered through p[re-qualification questionnaires.
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated guidance from the NPPF into their Local Plan; A sustainable design guide has been published; Solar PV guidance is currently being developed.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability has been embedded within planning policy, it is for example considered in the choice of locations for growth. All development plan documents need to complete a sustainability appraisal that considers the proposed policies and proposals against a series of criteria in order to ensure that the most sustainable choices are identified. Sustainability is considered alongside other factors such as infrastructure, land availability and landscape considerations.

EF2.2: Ensure that ‘smart mobility’, including easy access to local services, public transport and broadband is at the core of all new developments, where feasible, to improve air quality, reduce congestion and improve marketability.

Action	Progress	RAG
Develop guidance and update Kent Design to include recommendations from Growth without Gridlock: A Transport Delivery Plan for Kent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kent Design Guide encourages new developments to incorporate local shops and facilities, be close to public transport and have high quality walking and cycling routes in order to help reduce car usage and therefore reduce traffic and pollution and improve environmental quality. 	RAG
Ensure that smart mobility is fully integrated within the development planning process, working collaboratively with developers to maximise opportunities for walking, cycling, public transport and other sustainable choices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel plans are required to be produced by all developments that generate significant amounts of movement according to the National Planning Framework (NPPF). A Public Transport Smartcard will be piloted on Arriva bus services from summer 2014. The longer term aim is to provide a smartcard for use on all bus and rail services across the county. 	AMBER
Improve integration between Highways and Transportation and Public Health to ensure that active travel and smart mobility is integral to scheme design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable transport including active travel and smart mobility has been incorporated into a Sustainable Chapter of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The strategy aims to ensure that sustainable transport 	AMBER

Action	Progress	RAG
	options are incorporated into the toolkit to be produced for planning, and to widely promote and publicise active transport across organisations to improve uptake. In addition it also aims to ensure that health and sustainability considerations are fully integrated into strategic planning such as the Local Transport Plan.	AMBER
Where feasible, future proof new developments for climate resilience and new technologies (e.g., flooding, electric vehicles etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy efficiency of buildings is considered in all new developments, which must mitigate against the risk of flooding. Electric vehicle charging infrastructure is not necessarily explicit in local plans. 	

EF3.1: Maximise the use and value of materials in the waste stream and create opportunities to contribute to the green economy across the South East Seven (SE7) area

Action	Progress	RAG
Working with SE7 assess the opportunities within the waste sector: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ascertain economic potential of waste resources; - Assess supply and demand; - Investigate reuse/recycling networks for SMEs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Studies have been conducted by SE7 to understand the volume and types of waste produced across the South East 7 area, which includes Kent. Further understanding of the materials supply chain has identified where opportunities for SMEs may lie in certain material supply chains, particularly around commercial and industrial waste and reuse. Work is underway to establish where targeted business support for small charities and SMEs in the reuse sector would be most effective. These organisations have been invited to workshops to contribute towards this work. Further assessment of potential supply chain opportunities for SMEs in the commercial and industrial waste sector will be undertaken with consideration of how best to share this information with SMEs in the SE7 area. Proposals for targeted business support will be delivered over the next six (6) months and discussion will be had as to how to take this work forward in the most effective way. 	AMBER

EF3.2: Reduce food waste across the county

Action	Progress	RAG
Roll out the Minimise Food Waste campaign in Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of March 2013, all 13 local authorities in Kent adopted a policy to introduce weekly food waste collections. Seven councils plan on introducing these collections by December 2013. These collections will continue. 	GREEN
Champion and support the growth, development and future of the food and drink sector in Kent through marketing and promotion of local and seasonal produce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently it is estimated that over 1400 businesses are in Kent that are within the production of food and drink. 	
Implement the 'Fresher for Longer' campaign in Kent, launching in Tunbridge Wells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This campaign was launched in Tunbridge Wells and Parliament on 5th March 2013. The Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) and Marks & Spencer plc. are now to develop the campaign in Kent for the 2013/2014 period. 	

A number of local authorities across the Districts have reported on what programmes they have in place regarding waste resources; a few examples are highlighted below. These activities are in additions to work through the Kent Resource Partnership, which all local authorities including Medway unitary authority are signed up to.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following a joint tender from Maidstone and Swale Borough Councils Ashford Borough Council has introduced a new recycling and refuse collection scheme across the Borough; including the introduction of a food waste collection service. Initial results show that recycling has increased from 14% in 2012-2013, to over 50%. This has included recycling of over 2,500 tonnes of domestic food waste in a six month period; the food resource is now used to create soil improvement and fertiliser material thus completing a circular route back to agriculture. A Love Food Hate Waste community road show has been held in Ashford town centre. Professional chefs gave cooking demonstrations and workshops for the public to help people to understand the importance of recycling and make the most of their food and leftovers.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the period of April 2013 to February 2014 the Council collected 52,076 tonnes of waste of which 24,475 tonnes were recycled giving an average recycling rate of 47% over that period.

Local authority	Activity
Dartford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategies are being considered for the future.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's Waste team are holding a number of monthly campaigns throughout 2014 which include campaigns around: garden waste and composting, recycling of various household/seasonal items, and food waste.
Maidstone Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint waste contract has been established between Ashford and Swale Borough Councils.
Sevenoaks District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is part of the Love Food, Hate Waste campaign through the Kent Resource Partnership (KRP).
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A joint waste contract has been established between Maidstone and Ashford Borough Council's; see details under Ashford Borough Council for further details. A new food waste collection services has been established.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council operate a fortnightly food and garden waste collection service alongside the recycling collection. The collected waste is composted at Blaise Farm Quarry facility.

EF4.1: Use public sector purchasing power to support and drive change where a clear business case exists (link to EF 3.2; CC 7.1)

Action	Progress	RAG
Undertake a review of potential opportunities for KCC and Kent to install emerging energy efficiency and renewable energy Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete 	AMBER
Mainstream environmental considerations into public procurement in the public sector in Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendments to KCC corporate procurement documents have been agreed, including a checklist for commissioners to assess environmental impacts and opportunities. Those amendments are due to be completed over the coming period. The potential for inclusion of new clauses for contract renewals or new contracts will be assessed with regard to reducing environmental risk and addressing climate risk. 	

Action	Progress	RAG
Provide sustainable business advice to the public sector supply chain assisting them to make savings and identify their environmental impacts and take action to reduce it e.g. South East Business Carbon Hub (ended 2012), Low Carbon Kent Business Network (2013 - 2014) and STEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through Low Carbon Kent six STEM (Steps to Environmental Management) workshops to suppliers of Kent Commercial Services and Low Carbon Kent members. 	

EF4.2: Identify the key risks to food security in Kent focussing on rapid growth in water demand within the Kent horticulture and agriculture sector in the first instance.

Action	Progress	RAG
Prepare a baseline on trends in water use for the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A baseline report was produced jointly with UK Water Industry Research (UKWIR) in June 2013. It examines past records of water use and assesses future climate change impacts. 	AMBER
Develop an action plan to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimise agricultural/ horticultural output per unit of water - Establish secure and resilient water supplies - Enhance the local aquatic environment - Develop a stronger evidence base and establish clear targets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An action plan was agreed by the Kent Rural Board Water Task Group at the end of 2013. The majority of actions are short to medium term and expected to be completed by early 2015. Three actions have been completed around irrigation practices in Kent. An action that is currently in progress is a detailed survey of irrigation practices which will provide stronger evidence and allow clear targets to be set. 	
Engage local businesses and key organisations to raise awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will be implemented in 2014 on completion of the survey of irrigation practices. 	

A number of local authorities across the Districts have reported on how they consider sustainability within procurement decisions; a few examples are highlighted below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the adoption of a new procurement strategy in October 2013, the Council has stated a consideration for sustainability and more specifically that all procurement shall consider the net potential benefit to the social, economic and environmental wellbeing within the borough, and have due regard to the issue of sustainability. A recent tender for a combined recycling and street cleansing contract required that all vehicles achieved at least a European Emissions

Local authority	Activity
	standard Level 5; this was a pre-requisite for the tender.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently during the pre-qualification phase of the tender process the Council asks whether a company has an environmental policy.
Dartford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable procurement is a consideration for any Cabinet report.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council recognises the need to review the procurement process to ensure that sustainability is a consideration.
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's procurement strategy requires suppliers to consider sustainability.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability criteria are incorporated within the pre-qualification questionnaire. The Corporate Procurement Guide makes reference to whole life costing when considering the most economically advantageous tender.

Theme 2 Meeting the climate change challenge

There are a number of targets set out in the Kent Environment Strategy (KES) and Climate Local Kent (CLK) that are there to help monitor progress and drive forward the core themes of the Strategy. The following pages give an overview of progress toward KES and CLK targets, and the individual actions that have contributed toward the delivery of Theme 2. Some of the actions remain unchanged from the last full annual review, however all actions and targets will be reviewed at the end of 2014.

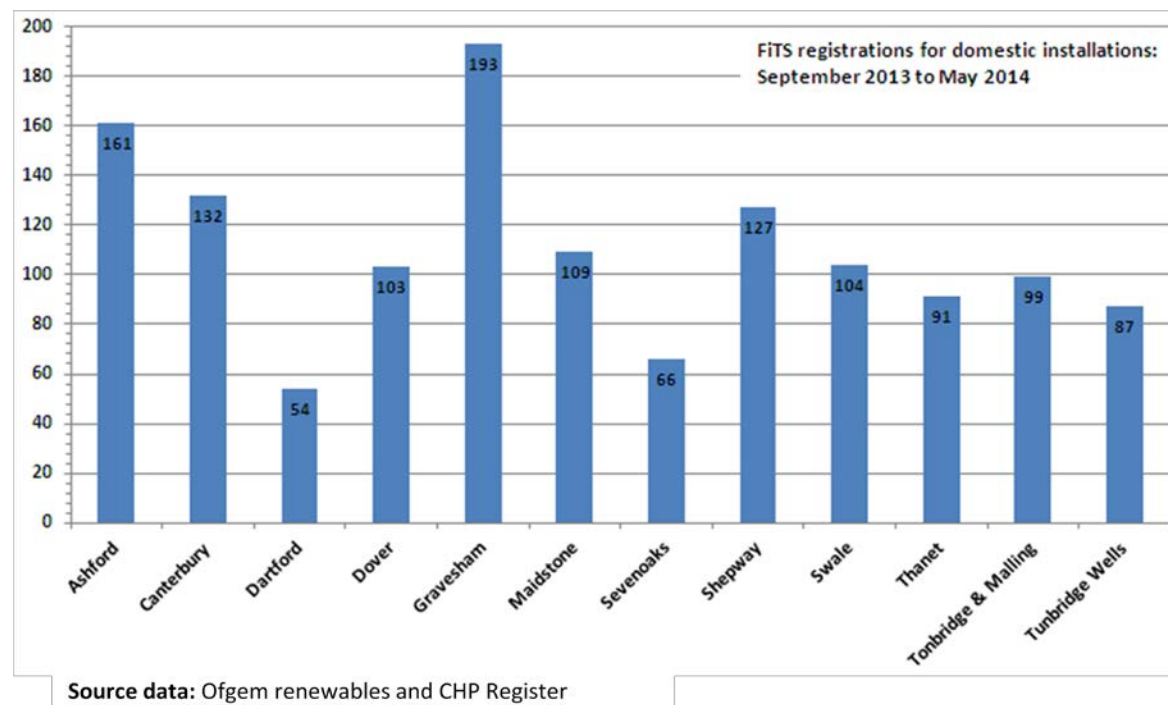
Targets from KES and CLK are presented first, followed by progress on actions and then finally some key highlighted updates from a number of local authorities. An overall progress rating of red, amber or green (RAG) is given for each action and that is based on the overall status and progress of each of the individual sub-actions. The overall RAG rating for Theme 2 is amber.

Overall Progress toward targets

- **We will increase renewable energy deployment in Kent by 10% by 2020 (this aligns to Action CC5.3 and Climate Local Kent)**

Currently a review is being undertaken to assess the best way to measure the growth of the renewable energy capacity in Kent through numbers of new installations. One method identified is to use Feed-in-Tariffs (FiTs), with other sources of data being considered. FiTs records installations for the domestic, commercial, industrial and community sector, and also breaks these data down into technology types: anaerobic digestion, hydroelectric, micro CHP, other, photovoltaic and wind.

The majority of FiTs registrations recorded since the last KES reporting period are from the domestic sector. The chart shows that the highest number of FiT registrations is for Gravesham (193) followed by Ashford (161) and Canterbury (132). Nearly all other local authority areas are around



100 registrations; the majority of those are for solar photovoltaics (PV). Numbers of FiTs registrations for the commercial, industrial and community sectors are much smaller. Industrial and community FiT numbers are five and 2 respectively. A relatively higher number exist for the commercial sector, 37. As with the domestic sector the majority of installations are for solar PV. The total installed capacity for all sectors is recorded as 6.49 MW.

- **We will support communities in preparing for climate change through the development of 15 community resilience plans in areas most at risk or with sufficient opportunities (*this aligns to Action CC6.2 and Climate Local Kent*)**
This relates to Coastal Communities 2150 (CC2150) through which three priority areas have been engaging with KCC through events and workshops. An action plan for each of the communities in the priority areas has now been finalised.
- **4814 homes will be moved out of any flood probability category to a lower probability category by 2016 (*this aligns to Action CC6.4 and Climate Local Kent*)**
Through the EA's ongoing flood risk management work, they aim to reduce flood risk to 5,905 properties (moving them to a lower flood probability category) in 2014/15. Dependent on funding they aim also to reduce flood risk to 4,486 properties in 2015/16. This will be reliant on securing partnership funding for proposed schemes.
- **We will work to support an increase jobs within the Low Carbon and Environmental Goods Sector (LCEGS) by 10% by 2020 (*this aligns to Action CC6.5 and Climate Local Kent*)**
A study by Regeneris Economic Development Consultancy reported on the current numbers of jobs within the low carbon and environmental goods and services (LCEGS) sector in Kent, and opportunities for growth within that sector. Update to be reported at the end of 2014.

Overall progress toward actions

CC5.1: Development of a 'Low Carbon Framework for Kent' where the public sector leads by example by cutting emissions from its buildings, activities and services.

Action	Progress	RAG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Climate Local Kent as part of the national Climate Local programme and ratify across Kent partners Establish clear, measurable targets for Climate Local Kent to support the delivery of the Kent Environment Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Local Kent (CLK), which is composed of 11 targets, has been agreed across Kent partners and was launched at the Kent Environment Strategy (KES) conference in September 2012. The targets have been developed so as to align with the KES. 	GREEN
Widely communicate an annual review of progress aligned with Kent Environment Strategy Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of actions and targets within the KES will be undertaken in October/November 2014 which will partly be used to evaluate the CLK targets and recommend any amendments to existing targets, or for creation of new targets. 	

CC5.2: Keep traffic moving and reduce the need to travel through encouraging and enabling smarter working and sustainable travel choices.

Action	Progress	RAG
Pro-actively support the development of high quality walking, cycling and public transport routes through the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, Local Transport Plan and Growth Without Gridlock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of December 2013, KCC emissions from claimed business mileage have reduced by 19.5% compared to 2010-2011 baseline. KCC fleet vehicle emissions have reduced by 24.5% compared to 2010-2011, the Highways vehicle lease refresh in 2013 has contributed significantly to this reduction with stop-start technology also being introduced. A proposal for a pool car/hire alternative to KCC staff using their own vehicles is continuing to be developed. The next period will see the completion of a market appraisal of suppliers who could deliver on this. There is a continued promotion of alternative and smarter travel options across KCC. Work has been completed on upgrading Canterbury West station forecourt, the work included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A refurbished forecourt at the front of the station; 	AMBER

Action	Progress	RAG
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A redesigned car park Improved integrated transport by bringing the bus stops closer to the station; ○ Increased taxi rank spaces from six to eight; ○ Improvements to the walking and cycling routes; ○ Upgraded lighting. ● Over the next period upgrade works on forecourts at Margate, Ramsgate and links between Canterbury West station and the city centre are planned to be completed. In addition, the feasibility of a pedestrian/cycle link between Sandwich and Discovery Park will be assessed. ● Jambusters – school travel planning software has been developed and will over the next period be trialled with four (4) pilot schools. ● A revenue bid (15/16) for the Local Sustainable Transport Fund has been submitted; the bid is targeted at reducing peak hour congestion through timely provision of information and promotion of sustainable transport information through school and business engagement.. Capital bids (15/16 to 20/21) for infrastructure improvements have also been submitted. 	
Review of gas fuel infrastructure and potential for anaerobic digestion as a fuel source. Participate in further bidding opportunities to support smart mobility and greener travel choices e.g. OLEV Electric Vehicle infrastructure grants and Better Bus Area Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No progress 	
Establish a network of electric charging points in Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 26 new fast charge points have been installed across Kent and will be operational before the end of June 2014. A second phase of the electric vehicle charge point project will include identification of more sites for fast charge, and rapid charge points. Phase 1 includes eight (8) double charge points on the KCC estate. With the exception of Canterbury's P&R sites, Swale supermarkets and the Port of Dover, these fast charge points are listed below under local authority projects. ● KCC will keep reviewing the electric vehicle market and explore 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	new opportunities for its own vehicle fleet.	
Increase use of tele- and video conferencing facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KCC is currently awaiting the roll out of a unified communications system which will allow all members of staff to use tele- and video conferencing from each computer workstation. 	
Develop policies for staff commuting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies need to be developed. However, sustainable transport has been incorporated into a Sustainability Chapter of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The strategy aims to ensure that sustainable transport options are incorporated into the toolkit to be produced for planning, and to widely promote and publicise active transport across organisations to improve uptake. In addition it also aims to ensure that health and sustainability considerations are fully integrated into strategic planning such as the Local Transport Plan and the implementation of travel plans for health and social care service locations. Travel plans have been developed for the new West Kent hub office at Kings Hill, West Malling, with further plans being drafted for the Tunbridge Wells office and the Mid-Kent hub in Ashford. 	
Ensure that the 'Doing Things Differently' programme of works address sustainable transport and enable smarter working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doing Things Differently will require more flexible and remote working. Services are aligning people to local clients to help reduce or avoid car travel. 	
Delivery of Cycling Strategies in Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling strategies are published on www.kent.gov.uk for the districts of Ashford, Dover, Sevenoaks, Shepway, Thanet and Tonbridge and Malling. 	
Strengthen the links between sustainable transport into health and wellbeing strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable transport has been incorporated into a Sustainability Chapter of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA); see previous action on policy for more detail. 	

A number of local authorities across the Districts have reported on how they are developing projects or activities that will help encouraging smarter and more sustainable travel options; some key highlights are described below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2014 the Council will be installing five double electric vehicle charging points within borough of Ashford. The Council will be working with the Office of Low Emission Vehicles and KCC for the installation phase. • A Cycle to Work scheme, through CycleScheme Ltd., is run by the Council. It is a salary sacrifice scheme whereby staff gives part of their gross salary in exchange for hiring a bike and safety equipment over a 12 month period.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of electric vehicle charging points have been installed across the local authority area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Park and Ride sites at Sturry Road, New Dover Road and Wincheap; ○ Two charge points at the Council offices on Military road in Canterbury – one is for the Council’s building contractor, the other for staff and members of the public. • A number of leisure and walking routes have been installed, which will encourage active transport. In 2014 a draft District Transport Strategy was produced which seeks to encourage active transport up until the year 2031. • The Council’s corporate staff travel plan has been revised to further encourage active transport amongst employees.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dover Harbour Board are installing a Fast Charger for electric vehicles at the Port of Dover • There are currently no staff engagement programmes in place relating to travel.
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric charging points have been installed in Council owned and supermarket car parks. • The Council is working with KCC’s public health, highways, transport and planning teams to improve air quality. • 22 schools across the Borough have signed up to Green Champions – previously walking bus.

Local authority	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defra funded freight transport plan is being developed. • DfT funding for bus emissions improvements awarded. • There are currently no staff engagement programmes in place relating to travel.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two locations are due to have electric vehicle charging points installed both within Tunbridge Wells. • There are in-frequent engagement activities such as promotion of car sharing.

CC5.3: Develop and deliver a Kent Renewable Energy Action Plan to address the main resources and opportunities for Kent including wind and biomass, community energy, skills and jobs and public sector deployment.

Action	Progress	RAG
Review Kent's renewable energy Resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A study was carried out in 2012 by AECOM on the current renewable energy capacity of Kent; this excluded Marine renewables for which a separate report was produced by KCC. 	GREEN
Develop a renewable energy action plan for Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A renewable energy action plan for Kent has been developed. Leads have been agreed for all work packages. . 	
Deliver the renewable energy action plan for Kent focussing on community energy, skills and jobs, public sector deployment and technologies with the biggest potential for Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The renewable energy plan was adopted in August 2013. The plan has been circulated to partners, publicised through networks and is available through the KCC website. • A small scoping exercise has been completed to understand the funding opportunities that exist for community energy schemes. Following on from this work ten community groups have been given advice and three have made applications for funding. • Ricardo-AEA was commissioned by KCC to undertake a feasibility study into the potential for community led wind and biomass energy projects on the Isle of Sheppey. The study, now complete, also looked at how the community could benefit from commercial energy projects. • A gap analysis study was commission looking at supply chain opportunities associated with the offshore wind sector, which has now been completed. As part of the study a database of businesses that could, or potentially could supply that sector has 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>been compiled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a joint study between Thanet District Council and KCC, BBP Regeneration consultants were commissioned to undertake a study into the feasibility of a sustainable centre for use by business and the community. The study is due to be completed May 2014. • At the end of 2013 the new Centre for Environmental Technologies at East Kent College was opened. • The Kent CORE (Centre for Offshore Renewable Energy) support project will continue over the next period. The support project is funded by the Thames Gateway Kent Partnership and Thanet District Council and is supporting the development and growth of the Kent CORE status. The Kent CORE brochure will be updated to reflect any relevant changes. • Over the next period an assessment will be made of the opportunities for public sector deployment of combined heat and power (CHP). • A database of renewable energy projects in Kent and Medway has been initiated which will compliment the 2012 AECOM study. 	

District and Borough authorities were asked to what the level of renewable energy deployment is across their administrative areas; some key highlights are described below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual level of deployment is difficult to accurately gauge. • Currently heat pumps are being installed in residential properties, and there is some use of combined heat and power (CHP) and solar panels throughout the Borough. • The Council has recently issued guidance in relation to solar farms and planning permission.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No overview of deployment across the Borough is given. Specific projects mentioned include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ellen Court: redevelopment project including buildings to

Local authority	Activity
	Sustainable Home standards and installation of solar PV panels with a total installed capacity of over 13kW. Another redevelopment project is Franklyn Court sheltered housing, which includes solar PV panels – total capacity to be confirmed.
Dartford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of deployment is not known.
Swale Borough Council	<p>A number of large stand alone installations have been installed whilst domestic installations continue. A number of project examples are given below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar PV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eastchurch 8 MW installed ○ South Lees Farm 10.5 MW under construction ○ Upchurch 1.7 MW granted ○ Tonge 22 MW application stage ○ Sheldwich 9.5 MW appeal hearing May 2014 ○ Morrisons distribution centre 2MW roof mounted installed • Wind <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ HMP Stanford Hill 4.6 MW installed ○ Port of Sheerness 10 MW granted ○ New Rides Farm 8 MW application stage • Biomass <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ridham Dock 23 MW (waste wood) under construction ○ Kemsley Paper Mill 48.5 MW (municipal solid waste) granted • Waste <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waste oil to biofuel at Stanford Hill as part of Sustainable Sheppey
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<p>As of December 2013, total installed capacity for renewable devices was 3.086 kW – these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 759 PV installations (735 domestic); • 1 microCHP.

CC6.1: We will ensure that resilience to climate change and severe weather is addressed across public sector strategies and policies and supports the business case for adaptation actions through effective monitoring of the impacts of severe weather

Action	Progress	RAG
Ensure that resilience to climate change and severe weather is integrated into strategies and policies within the Health and Wellbeing sector and priority actions are carried out, commencing with building resilience for vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resilience to climate change has been written into the needs of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). A steering group has been set up to direct sustainability inclusion into the JSNA. This has been completed and guidance developed by the group has been published on the national Sustainable Development Unit's website. 	AMBER
Resilience to climate change to be considered in key strategies and planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With regard to KCC, a review of key strategies will be undertaken in order to identify how climate risk could be considered and incorporated. A Health and Wellbeing Strategy is currently being developed and will be completed by September 2014. 	
We will review all services not incorporated in the first round of the Kent Adaptation Action Plan development to ensure risks are monitored and accurately assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A risk assessment has been completed identifying effects from severe weather and climate-related health impacts on categories of social care provision. The risk assessment identifies threats, risks and short and medium term opportunities. <p>Over the next period the planned tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revisit priority services in KCC to confirm adaptation action e.g. Highways, Waste and Property Ensure action plans are peer reviewed by relevant business continuity managers SWIMS likely to be extended to more customer facing services Annual review of the Families & Social Care climate change risk assessment, actions completed and programmes of work contributing the identified threats, risks and short and medium term opportunities. 	
We will review sign up to Kent's Severe Weather Impacts Monitoring System (SWIMS) across public and private sector and integrate learning into our planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A review of current representation was undertaken as part of the severe weather report, including planned actions to review and increase sign up 	
We will increase sign up to SWIMS across public and private	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of April 2014 there are now 118 users on SWIMS, 	

Action	Progress	RAG
sectors to support the development of a clear business case for resilience in Kent	<p>representing 101 services and 35 organisations across Kent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public sector services include: Kent Police, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, NHS, all Borough and District councils across Kent and one representative for Medway Council. • Private/other sector services (providing a public service) include: Environment Agency, Met Office, Maritime & Coastguard Agency, Infrastructure & Utilities networks (UK Power networks; South East Water; Southeastern & National rail; Highways Agency; British Transport Police; Port of Dover Authority). <p>Over the coming period a number of SWIMS related tasks are planned which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance and reporting – severe weather summaries for Kent users, to aid business planning and inform on learning from these events. • Review and increase representation of SWIMS – following on from a winter 2013/2014 severe weather summary report a review of membership will be undertaken. • Informing planning – links with the following groups will be made to provide data from SWIMS to inform their work: KRF Risk Assessment Group; KCC Risk Management Team, LGA Business Case Working Group; KCC & Multi-Agency de-brief groups. • Cost avoidance messaging – discussions with Defra to investigate how to do this through use of the UKCP09 threshold detector. 	

District/Borough authorities were asked whether they are considering climate resilience in key decisions and strategies. Some of the responses are detailed below. Related to this, all Districts across Kent have signed up to the SWIMS – see details against Action CC6.1.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council continues to comply with all relevant climate change and environmental legislation and statutory duties, and takes a pragmatic

Local authority	Activity
	approach when making decisions to assess key decisions for climate change implications.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate resilience is considered as part of some of the Council's key decisions and strategies. Examples include the Local Plan and supporting reports/research, such as the Canterbury Development Requirements Study and the Sustainability Appraisal, and their Environment Strategy 2013 -16 which includes 'preparing for the future' as one of the three themes of the strategy.
Dartford Borough Council	Only in general terms.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's emerging Land Allocations Local Plan includes Guidance on Coastal Change Management Areas, i.e. what type of development will be permitted in a coastal change management area. Environment Agency on any proposals for development and it uses various studies to directly inform its decisions; example studies include Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, and flood and hazard mapping.
Sevenoaks District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council is a member of the Kent Resilience Forum.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council has adopted Climate Local Tunbridge Wells as part of the Council's Vision 2014-2019. This includes actions related to climate resilience. Climate resilience is also included within the sustainability checklist for cross-cutting issues which has been developed for decision report writers.

CC6.2: Support communities in building resilience to climate change with a particular focus on those at greatest risk or with significant opportunities from severe weather and climate change.

Action	Progress	RAG
Support priority communities identified through the Coastal Communities 2150 project to develop community resilience plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 engagement events/workshops across three priority communities were held up until September 2013. These have included steering group meetings, drop-in sessions and community events. The final outputs of the project have been completed and 	GREEN

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>include a vision and supporting resilience action plan for each of the three project areas: Isle of Sheppey, Margate and Cliftonville, and Romney Marsh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KCC have sponsored a grant scheme to take forward 22 actions developed through the project and engagement work. £4,500 was available to each project community, and local organisations and community groups were invited to apply. Four bids were successful and announced at the CC2150 Kent Community Launch event and will deliver activity throughout 2014. Over the coming period, the activities and results from the successful awardees will be monitored. 	
<p>Support community groups, including parish councils, in the development of emergency plans including the impacts of severe weather and flooding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local parish councillors and environmental groups will be consulted in order to assess if the visions and action plans from the CC2150 project can be adopted across their respective areas. • Following the recent flood events, the Environment Agency (EA) Flood Resilience Team are working with multi-agency partners and communities who were affected in order to gain a clearer understanding of the impacts of those events. They are also trying to understand how, collectively, improvements in preparation and response to future events can be made. • As part of this understanding, the EA are helping communities develop flood plans, and working with KCC on the development of a Flood Warden training scheme and supporting communities in Tonbridge, Hildenborough, Little Venice and Collier Street to establish warden groups. • Ten community emergency plans have been completed, the aim over the next period is to engage with a further 27 parishes who have already started to develop or want to develop plans. 	
<p>Support community planning through the Climate Ready programme delivery in Kent</p>	<p>In development</p>	

District/Borough authorities were asked whether they have community resilience projects or support in place, for example community flood, or resilience plans. Some of the responses are detailed below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of a Community Emergency Plan template and guidance that is available on their website. • Worked closely with the parish/town councils within the borough and have engaged with the majority of primary schools in the area through Safety in Action.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community flood plans are being developed with a number of villages affected by recent (2013/2014) flooding.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council provide a Community Emergency Plan, which comes from the Kent Resilience Forum template, to parish and town authorities along with instructions on how to complete those. Dover District and Kent County Council officers have been involved with preparation of plans for Sandwich, Deal, Walmer, Sholden and Alkham. • In order to help support businesses in continuity plans, the Council has prepared and distributed leaflets across the district advising specially on flooding issues; a revision of the leaflet by a multi-agency group will take place this year.
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of activities are described: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supporting communities to take the CC2150 Action Plans forward – see details under Action CC6.2; ○ Supporting the development of a number of Neighbourhood plans; • Sustainable Sheppey has a sustainable schools stream which includes making schools more resilient.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A project to fit property level flood protection measures to 21 homes has been completed. Funded by the Environment Agency (EA), Lamberhurst Phase II acquired just under £50,000 of funds for the works.

CC6.3: We will develop a Water Resilience Framework for Kent to strengthen the understanding of climate change risks to water systems, identify areas at greatest risk, support local adaptation planning and identify related business opportunities.

Action	Progress	RAG
Produce baseline report on the state of local water systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A baseline report entitled 'The State of Water in Kent' was produced and presented at the Kent Water Summit on 26th June 2012. 	GREEN
Review literature and establish the key risks to water systems in Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A report entitled 'Risks and Opportunities for Water: An analysis of the long term risks and opportunities for water systems in Kent' was published in March 2013. 	
Undertake a spatial risk assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> URS consultants were commissioned to carry out work to map the impacts and consequences of climate change, land use change and population change on water systems in Kent and Medway. The study, now complete, looked at how these impacts and consequences will likely affect four key receptor groups – agriculture, business, environment and communities. 	
Hold workshop to disseminate findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop was held in October 2013 to present the first draft outputs of the URS study to a range of stakeholders including planners and water companies. Further dissemination of the findings will be best focused separately on each of the main receptor groups which are: agriculture, business, environment and communities. 	
Engage with businesses and communities to support resilience planning and business opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Climate Change Resilience workshop was scheduled for June 2013, however due to poor uptake the workshop has been postponed. A reassessment of marketing and approach will be undertaken and a process will be designed for communicating the results to SMEs and communities, focusing on the identified high risk areas. 	

CC6.4: We will build flood resilience in Kent, increasing awareness and developing flood responses as appropriate

Action	Progress	RAG
<p>We will map and understand the interdependencies of critical infrastructure situated in East Coast flood risk areas and the impacts any flooding of this would have on inland communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Environment Agency (EA) has developed mapped images of a 'credible worst case scenario' for the impacts of an East Coast tidal event on Kent. These mapped images will enable partner organisations to develop their own planning for their response. • The EA are working closely with our professional partners to gain a clearer understanding of the tidal event that took place on 5th and 6th December 2013. As part of this we are preparing a flood report which will detail the impact on communities, flood defence assets and the environment, as well as lessons learnt. This will be shared with EA partners as part of ongoing work to improve our coastal response plans. • Annual shingle recharge works to reinstate the shingle beach at Denge was completed. These works ensure the old seawall is not subjected to wave attack, and sustain the supply of beach material along the southern coast of Romney Marsh. This will help reduce flood risk to 580 properties. • A project at Iwade to install a weedscreen has been completed, meaning large debris cannot enter into a culvert, and therefore reducing flood risk in the village has also been completed. This will help reduce flood risk to 23 properties. • Families and Social Care is working on a pilot project to develop Strategic Health Asset Planning and Evaluation (SHAPE) system in a local authority setting. Work is progressing as part of a multi-agency approach in resilience planning, including identifying vulnerable health and social care assets and communities in flood planning so that these are considered as part of risk management and business continuity functions. 	<p style="text-align: center;">GREEN</p>

Action	Progress	RAG
<p>We will develop improved coastal flood response plans as part of the East Coast flood preparedness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kent Resilience Forum (KRF) held an East Coast Flood Workshop on 30 April 2013 to raise awareness of the risk of east coast flooding to Kent, and to develop the key planning activities of the Kent multi agency partners to this type of event. This helped support the multi agency response to the December tidal surge. • The outputs from the East Coast Flood Workshop were discussed by the KRF in September 2013. The East Coast Flood Planning Task and Finish Group are expected to be established during the autumn as a result of the recommendations from the workshop. This will be chaired by the Environment Agency. • The Environment Agency have established an internal Technical Advisory Group to develop the Environment Agency's planning around coastal flood risk. An action plan has been developed to guide this work. • Outcomes from the KRF East Coast Flooding Workshop suggest the need to complete a deep-dive desk-top exercise with Health and Social Care partners and private sector providers on one community at risk to identify implications for Health and Social Care, applying learning countywide to internal and external service provision. 	
<p>Develop and implement the Local Flood Risk Strategy for Kent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Kent was adopted in June 2013. It included an action plan for 2013/14 which has been reported on. Some actions have been completed which include: surface water management plans for Folkestone, Ramsgate and Margate, and some have been carried forward, including the collection of further data about drainage assets. • An Action plan for 2014/15 has been developed and will be delivered this financial year. The actions include further surface water management plans for Marden, Staplehurst and Headcorn and the delivery of a concise flood document for district authorities. 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work has already begun on a number of actions including Surface water management plans for Folkestone and Margate towns. KCC is also working with partners across the southeast to deliver guidance for planners to implement Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS). 	GREEN
We will move homes to lower flood probability categories	See target highlights at the start of Theme 2.	

CC6.5: Continue to support and develop the low carbon economy in Kent through Low Carbon Kent with a focus on the biggest areas of opportunity including offshore wind, biomass, retrofitting, marine technologies and eco-innovation.

Action	Progress	RAG
Develop and promote the low carbon sector in Kent with a focus on those areas with the most potential for growth - offshore wind, marine Green Deal/ECO/building retrofit and wood biomass through focused supply chain analysis, sector conversations, work with key low carbon sector companies to identify of gaps/barriers/opportunities and identification of business support needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low Carbon Kent successfully launched in April 2013 with 1,270 businesses on the network. The aim of the network is to bring together businesses that are either operating in a sustainable manner or delivering green products/services. Some key highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secured £2.3 million to provide financial assistance to LCEGS businesses in the form of grants. These are offered through Low Carbon Kent as the Low Carbon Plus grants scheme. Grants used need to demonstrate job creation or safe-guarding. Exhibited at the Construction Expo in November 2013 to raise awareness of Low Carbon Kent, opportunities in low carbon market and available business support. A number of studies have been commissioned and are due to be completed over the coming period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An in-depth study of supply chain capabilities in Kent and Medway for the offshore wind sector has been completed. A feasibility study for a Greenbox in Thanet. Various 	GREEN
Continue to develop and roll out across Kent an integrated business support package for the Low Carbon Sector (resource efficiency and suppliers of low carbon services/products) for Kent to maximise existing support and develop appropriate public sector interventions for Kent e.g. through Fusion (Low Carbon Kent business directory and STEM), EEK, Tiger, High Growth Kent, Growth Accelerator		

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>scenarios are being developed to provide options for business model, funding, sustainability of business and public centre that would show case low carbon technologies/practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A study which is conducting an analysis of the small and medium enterprise (SME) and small charity reuse sector across the south east region which will then be used to inform on the development of intervention options that could build the capacity of that sector. ○ Developing a project looking at the opportunities for biomass, CHP and/or district heating in Kent. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the next period awareness of low carbon businesses in Kent and Medway will be raised through three key events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ KEiBA awards and the Commitment to the Environment Category; ○ Kent 2020 and the Low Carbon Zone; ○ A 2014 Green Business Conference. 	
<p>Through targeted communications continue to market Kent as the place to go for green business opportunities and continue to develop the online directory of suppliers of low carbon technologies and services to promote the low carbon sector in Kent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Green Business conference was held on November 19th 2013 at which 87 delegates attended. • Following the success of the Meet the Buyer event in June 2013 (61 delegates) where businesses interested in the Green Deal and ECO were invited to meet Kent and Medway Green Deal Partnership's supplier of ECO, Amey; several businesses were assisted and encouraged to become a preferred supplier to Amey and complete the Vendor Application Process (VAP). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 27 attended Meet The Buyer (MTB) and started the VAP ○ 18 completed Request for Information (RFI) posted on Kent Portal and started VAP ○ 31 attended MTB and completed RFI ○ 10 approved as contractor, 1 in Kent ○ TOTAL: 108 businesses encouraged to go through VAP ○ Meetings were held with Amey to better understand 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>the Vendor Application Process (VAP) process so that targeted support could be delivered. Procurement workshops were proposed but due to ECO consultations, have not materialised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 businesses intensively supported through Fusion to assist them with becoming Green Deal ready 	
Review skills needs for key green growth sector areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An initial proposal for funding support, provided through Fusion, to help businesses become Green Deal ready was not possible. However, through a Low Carbon Plus (LC+) SMEs may be eligible for grant funding to help toward costs of becoming Green Deal certified installers or advisors. 	
Build on the activities of training establishments and schemes to match the needs of the key growth sectors e.g., apprenticeships and targeted training programmes	Further work is required on matching skills needs for low carbon growth with training /apprenticeships.	

There are a number of projects and programmes operating across District/Borough authorities who are supporting the low carbon economy in Kent; highlights are detailed below.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is a partner in the Greenov Project; the project is financed in part by the European Union.. The project aims to develop the economic sector of sustainable renovation mainly by stimulating the innovation capacity of SMEs working in this field. It will also contribute to the transition to low-carbon cities and sustainable economy and will improve the knowledge and expertise on sustainable renovation of existing buildings. • Example key projects completed in the Ashford borough are Ashford Library and St Mary the Virgin Church.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the use of a web based support programme called Startmybiz, low carbon support is provided to new companies.
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council send e-bulletins signposting SMEs to sources of help and support.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is continuing to explore opportunities with KCC and Low Carbon Kent in supporting SMEs.

Theme 3 Valuing our natural, historic and living environment

There are a number of targets set out in the Kent Environment Strategy (KES) and Climate Local Kent (CLK) that are there to help monitor progress and drive forward the core themes of the Strategy. The following pages give an overview of progress toward KES and CLK targets, and the individual actions that have contributed toward the delivery of Theme 3. Some of the actions remain unchanged from the last full annual review, however all actions and targets will be reviewed at the end of 2014.

Targets from KES and CLK are presented first, followed by progress on actions and then finally some key highlighted updates from a number of local authorities. An overall progress rating of red, amber or green (RAG) is given for each action and that is based on the overall status and progress of each of the individual sub-actions. The overall RAG rating for Theme 3 is amber.

Overall progress toward targets

- We will work towards ensuring that 60% of our local wildlife sites will have positive management implemented by 2013 and 95% of Kent's Sites of Special Scientific Interest are in favourable or recovering condition (*this aligns to Climate Local Kent*)**
The percentage of local wildlife sites where positive conservation management has been implemented for 2012-13 is 60%. Currently data on Sites of Special Scientific Interest are not available and will be reported on for the next period.
- We will increase volunteering in the county with a 20% increase in hours spent and aim to increase outdoor activity with 20% taking part in organised outdoor activities (*this aligns to Climate Local Kent*).**
With regards to Public Rights of Way volunteering, in 2013, volunteers recorded 1,951 hours of work to date. This is a decrease on 2012 which is more likely due to work undertaken in previous years meaning that opportunities this year are lower, e.g., signing and waymarking already completed. This target is therefore not yet met but activities are underway to increase volunteering in the county and a fuller review of wider volunteering opportunities will be carried out.

Overall progress toward actions


VE8.1: Identify how the natural environment could better support key public services and the green economy


Action	Progress	RAG
Milton Creek Investment assessment to identify, quantify and communicate the direct and indirect economic and social benefits delivered through parklands investment at Milton Creek, Sittingbourne.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 	AMBER
Thames Gateway Growth Area Study looking at the ecosystem service functions, and associated opportunities and threats, within the Kent Thames Gateway area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 	
Value of the natural environment communication tool - to provide a simple and precise communication tool on the value of the natural environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete 	
Ecosystems services mapping: develop a map of the ecosystem services of the county and use this to underpin a broad range of green infrastructure activities and policy making.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems service mapping: the seven NCA profiles that cover Kent have been published: North Kent Plain; North Downs; Wealden Greensand; Low Weald; Greater Thames Estuary; High Weald; and Romney Marshes. • Kent Nature Partnership has undertaken a study to look at land owners and managers who use rural land in a new or innovative way and benefit from their links with the natural environment. The report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides an overview of various new approaches in rural land use in England ○ Provides an overview of their viability in the Kent context ○ Presents an overview of the current situation in Kent including examples of innovative businesses linked to the natural environment ○ Identifies the potential risks and opportunities linked to the natural environment for these businesses and gives examples of how the negatives impact is being or could be addressed ○ Makes recommendations about the most effective way 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>to proceed with this area of work in order to gain the most value.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report described above is available on the Kent Nature Partnership's website and is called <i>Business innovation in the land-based sector</i>. 	GREEN
<p>Develop green infrastructure business plans, based on ecosystem services assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify ecosystem service needs and functions across the Hoo Peninsula and assess where function gaps exist. - develop an economic evaluation tool, which will provide a business cases for investment in the development of functions required to meet the identified service needs. - identify delivery mechanisms for the required functions and put in place GI investment to meet these needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIFT-T! tasks are to be confirmed – no further information. 	
Application of experience and knowledge gained in North Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To take place after GIFT-T 	
Analysis of rural/green economy in Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To take place after GIFT-T 	

VE9.1: Establish functional habitat areas and wildlife networks in Biodiversity Opportunity Areas that support local landscape character

Action	Progress	RAG
Develop and establish Local Nature Partnership whose membership reflects and recognises, the services and benefits which a healthy natural environment brings for people, communities and the county economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete although partnership membership base will continue to be further developed 	GREEN
Review Kent's biodiversity targets and establish new LNP targets around the BOAs framework and in support of Biodiversity 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional targets for the Kent Nature Partnership have been developed and are now under consultation. These include Kent's offer to Biodiversity 2020 relating to four groups of outcomes for land based habitats and ecosystems; marine habitats and ecosystems; species; and people. In addition there are targets for 35 priority habitats. Further to this, the majority of the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) targets end in 2015; the KNP's Habitat Improvement Group has recommended to 	

Action	Progress	RAG	
	<p>host an event in September 2014 to assess overall progress and agree the terms for the next set of BOAs. This next set of BOAs will take the KNP targets and provide a spatial framework for their delivery, prioritising geographical areas for action for the benefit of biodiversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the next period, KCC and the wider Kent Nature Partnership (KNP) network will host biodiversity opportunity areas (BOA). 		
Connectivity and fragmentation analysis to identify pilot project areas and facilitate delivery of wider functional networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete 		
Habitat connectivity project for Central & Medway Downs BOA and Medway Gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bid for Habitat connectivity project for Central & Medway Downs BOA and Medway Gap was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in Aug 2013. The bid was rejected due to insufficient funds to meet the funding needs of eligible projects. Following consultation with HLF and encouragement to reapply, a re-submission is being prepared for the May 27th deadline. Some of the activities originally planned for phase 1 (development phase) have already being completed, e.g. identifying areas to defragment and acquisition of land ownership data, overall project costs have been reduced and a student bursary for project work has been introduced. Updated ecosystems modelling tool has been received and multiple data sets are now being acquired and formatted to make them suitable for running the model. The model along with maps will be completed over the next reporting period. A recommendation is to extend ecosystem mapping beyond project area to make best use of data and resources. The ecosystems model will be used to identify and map key ecosystem services across the project area and identify hotspots that need to be protected or enhanced is planned for the next period (Lead is KWT). KWT secured Roadside Nature Reserve funding for another year, enabling a part time post to deliver increased ecological connectivity and volunteer engagement within the project area. 		

Action	Progress	RAG
Bumble Bee habitat defragmentation project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The habitat fragmentation tool will be used to determine key areas and management prescriptions will be drawn up. The project is expected to conclude in March 2013. Connectivity mapping for the East Kent Bumblebee project has been completed. The mapping went beyond its original boundary and it now extends from Rye to Cleve Marshes. Individual sites have been identified and an interim management plan section, covering Walmer and Pegwell Bay, has been submitted to NE. The Bumblebee Conservation Trust has been encouraged to use the data as the basis for the Pollinators HLF bid, to be submitted in May 2014. Over the next period identifying more habitats within the Bumblebee project area are planned for, and the production of a final report. This is addition to contributing towards The Bumblebee Trust Pollinators project. 	

Below are some examples of how districts/borough authorities have been working with the Kent Nature Partnership (KNP), and also whether they have had access to the 2012 Kent Habitat Survey (2012 KHS) data, and whether how any assessment of how to increase habitat connectivity within their administrative areas could be undertaken.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst direct working with the KNP has reduced over the past three years due to resource issues, the Council fully supports and understands the KNP role and works with many third party organisations and voluntary groups that are either members of the KNP or else work closely with them. They are also a member of KNP management working group. The 2012 Kent Habitat Survey (2012 KHS) data is used with partners in developing nature conservation within the borough. Examples of this are work undertaken with the Kent Wildlife Trust at Hothfield Common, The Warren and a new county park at Conningbrook Lakes. An extensive Green Corridor plan for the borough has been adopted by the Council. The Ashford Green Corridor is a green space that runs

Local authority	Activity
	<p>through the town and is made up of parks, recreation grounds and other green spaces alongside the rivers that flow through Ashford. It is a designated local nature reserve.</p>
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council is represented within the Kent Nature Partnership • The Council have permission to use the files 2012 KHS data and supported the project that produced those data. They have applications for desktop assessments of the ecological value of proposed development sites through the planning process. • The Council has included policies relating to green infrastructure in the draft Local Plan and green corridors are part of the assessment in the Open Space Strategy. Biodiversity Opportunity Area maps have aided their assessment of the potential to enhance habitat connectivity as set out in our Canterbury Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal. Opportunities to develop habitat connectivity will be assessed strategically as new proposed sites for development come forward. We are also working with partners to enhance existing habitat value. For example working with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The RSPB to restore marshland at Seasalter; ○ Kent Wildlife Trust to undertake grassland and woodland management; ○ Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership for various habitat enhancement works in the district and across boundaries.
Dartford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council have not been able to assess how to increase habitat connectivity; the only development in this area is that an Ecology Island in Dartford Park has been completed.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Up on the Downs Landscape Partnership has access to the 2012 KHS data and have been able to use those data to assess conditions of sites, identify opportunities for improving habitat connectivity and where to target funding from the Up on the Downs Landscape Heritage Grants Scheme. • Through the Up on the Downs Landscape Partnership's Landscape Conservation Action Plan, the Council were able to look at how to increase habitat connectivity at a very local level. At district level, the Green Infrastructure Strategy puts forward number of actions/projects

Local authority	Activity
	<p>that are helping to increase connectivity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up on the Downs is also trying to encourage a joined up approach, a dialogue and knowledge sharing to tackle this issue. In terms of support: funding, expertise and technology
Swale Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swale Council has access to the 2012 KHS data and have in general used it for habitat quantification.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2012 KHS data is used to inform development planning from site allocations through to planning decisions. It will in the future be used to inform on green infrastructure work.

VE9.2: Update the Landscape Character Assessment (LCA), identifying areas of declining condition and taking action to improve them

Action	Progress	RAG
Establish Kent landscape group to provide a focus for action and get ownership for action and support for its delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete The Landscape Group will meet again over the next period to review the results of the pilot studies which are detailed below. 	AMBER
Pull together existing information and conduct a gap analysis for landscape character assessment in Kent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The gap analysis work has been completed. The work has been used to identify three pilot study areas, see below. 	
Pilot update of the Landscape Character Assessment in Kent Downs AONB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kent Landscape Group have assessed and agreed a way to target pilot landscape character and studies. In addition to the completed study in the Medway Valley, a further pilot has been commissioned for the Darent Valley. The tender for the final pilot has been written up now and will be commissioned in a Borough where it is likely to be the most use in terms of informing policy and being applied to deliver real improvements to landscape condition through decision-making. Members of the Landscape Group have informed part of the selection process and discussions around the integrated approach were agreed. There is support to deliver the actions proposed amongst the group – a final area has been selected and we are waiting to finalise some points before commissioning the pilot study. Achieving a third pilot in an area where the political situation is 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	suitable, and the condition of the landscape in question is deemed poor has been difficult. Fitting this into a timeframe which ties in with the Kent Landscape Group then adds a further complication, so whilst the pilot remains in progress, the original timeframe has slipped slightly.	GREEN
Use the pilots to inform an update of the Landscape Character Assessment in Kent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Group will work together to establish how landscape enhancement plans may be rolled out further and/or whether a Kent wide approach is feasible and desired. An Action Plan for the roll out will be produced. 	
Seek resources for review of Kent LCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The actions proposed in the Darent Landscape Character Action Plan will inform a significant bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund to be submitted in May. 	

VE9.3: Reduce the number of designated heritage assets judged to be at risk, working in partnership with English Heritage and others

Action	Progress	RAG
Set up communication network for recording damage to heritage assets, linked to Kent HER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English Heritage and partners have developed the Alliance to Reduce Crime against Heritage (ARCH); pilot heritage crime risk assessments are being undertaken for Medway Gap and Dover district by Kent County Council and Kent Police. The final stages of the projects are still unfinished due to lack of availability of Kent Police Analyst time. A solution will be sought for the difficulties in securing police analyst time to complete the pilot heritage crime risk assessments for Medway Gap and Dover district. 	GREEN
Pilot Heritage Warden programme in Medway Gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This has as not gone ahead yet because the risk assessment has not been completed due to police analyst time restrictions. A Heritage Crime reporting protocol for metal detectorists is being agreed with the Kent Police Environment team; completion expected mid-2014. 	
Work with local residents to prepare conservation area appraisals to reduce number of conservation areas at risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the guidance set out in the NPPF, Kent County Council has been working with Dover District Council and English Heritage to prepare a Heritage Strategy for Dover District. Work with local residents on appraisals is to be taken 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	forward by Dover District Council as part of the action plan for the strategy. No update for this period.	
Work with Natural England, English Heritage and landowners to increase the number of designated assets in Higher Level Stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Countryside Stewardship programme is in transition and this action is being reviewed. English Heritage has started work on the Conservation of Scheduled Monuments in Cultivation project. 	
Develop a solution to the Kent archaeological archives storage and access problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options including remote long-term storage have been developed further and are being evaluated. Consultation with Kent Museums Group Archaeology Working Party and other stakeholders will take place in 2014. 	
Implementation of Kent Farmsteads Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kent Farmsteads Guidance has been prepared by English Heritage, Kent Downs AONB and Kent County Council to help assess the character of historic farmsteads and assist in the process of sustainable development. Kent County Council endorsed the guidance in July 2013 and a training seminar and launch has been arranged for May 2014. Final amendments will be made and district summaries prepared in August 2013. Will then work with district councils and Medway Council towards adoption of guidance as part of their local plan process. A launch and training event will be held in early autumn 2013. 	
Develop heritage strategies and historic environment policies for Kent Local Planning Authorities as indicated in the NPPF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dover Heritage Strategy was adopted by Dover District Council in July 2013 and has been used to help secure government funding to review how heritage assets within the district are managed. A seminar was held in December 2013 with English Heritage, Thanet District Council, Kent County Council and local groups to develop new methods for preparing a Heritage Strategy in Thanet. Reporting for the Hoo Peninsula Historic Landscape Project (carried out by English Heritage) is now complete, and is being used to inform development management and designation decisions on the peninsula and adjacent estuary. Designation decisions for heritage assets on the Hoo peninsula 	

Action	Progress	RAG
	<p>surveyed as part of the Hoo Landscape project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent Gardens Trust, Kent County Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and Sevenoaks District Council have undertaken updates of the Kent Gardens Compendium for those districts as part of the Local Plan process. Work is now underway on an assessment of Medway Councils Historic Gardens. Tunbridge Wells has adopted a SPD on Local Heritage Assets and the gardens will be considered for inclusion on the list in due course. After a successful first meeting the panel has unfortunately had to be suspended due to a reduction in staff resources at Tunbridge Wells BC. Completion of the Medway Historic Gardens assessment is expected over the next period. 	GREEN
<p>Improve awareness of Kent historic defences and improve management of significant assets</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion expected over the next period of 'At Fort' project assessment of Dover Western Heights. • 'Sarre in WWII project' completed with great interest from the local community. Swale Defences project is ongoing and progressing well. Project proposal for a WWI hospitals project has been submitted to HLF. Also developing a proposal for a further project on Kent's defences in WWI. 	

VE10.1: Deliver the Countryside Access Improvement Plan, with an ongoing commitment to customer led improvements to Kent's green infrastructure

Progress towards most of the targets within this action are reported on the Countryside Access Improvement Plan annual report 2012/2013

Action	Progress	RAG
<p>Review of Countryside Access Improvement Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having been approved by the Customer and Communities Cabinet, the revision of the Countryside and Coast Access Improvement Plan was completed at the end of 2013. • Progress to be made towards the objectives contained within the revised document. 	GREEN
<p>Well maintained network and improved standards of access</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to the Countryside Access Improvement Plan 	

Action	Progress	RAG
Reduce impact of growth and development on access to rights of way and open spaces and realise opportunities for access improvement that this growth may present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Countryside Access Improvement Plan 	GREEN
Establish a more complete, sensible rights of way network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Countryside Access Improvement Plan 	
Improving safety on public footpaths, bridleways, byways and restricted byways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Countryside Access Improvement Plan 	
Promote opportunities to visit the countryside and coast by providing high quality information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Countryside Access Improvement Plan 	
Education and respect for the countryside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to the Countryside Access Improvement Plan 	

VE10.2: Deliver initiatives in the Kent area that enable people to more readily access green space and the historic environment such as explore Kent, outdoor learning and volunteering

Action	Progress	RAG
Provision of outdoor events, festivals and other engagement initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A number of events and activities have taken place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore Kent stand at The Outdoor Show, Excel, London, (February 2014) promoting the Kent Countryside; Kent Coast Week; Launch of NCN18 route at Godmersham and Brompton Dock at Ashford international (June 2014). 	GREEN
Use of ANGST to develop GI strategies	No update available	
Development of coastal access route: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ramsgate to Folkestone pilot; - Folkestone to Rye pilot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal access route: Phase 1 (Ramsgate to Folkestone) report has been publically consulted on receiving 5 objections. Decision now with Planning Inspectorate for which a site visit is scheduled for 23rd April 2014. Phase 2 (Folkestone- Camber), report due July-August 2014. Expected over the next period is the launch of Viking Coast Train connection to St Nicholas at Wade. 	

Action	Progress	RAG
Maintenance of Explore Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Walking and Cycling guide for Kent produced and distributed. 	
Development of volunteering opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering opportunities available through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Countryside Access Wardens – 2,532 hrs recorded from March 2013-2014 ○ Country Parks Volunteers ○ Sustrans Rangers ○ CMP Volunteers ○ Thanet Coast Wardens ○ Medway Swale Estuary Wardens ○ Heritage Wardens ○ Kent Wildlife Trust – 13,005 Volunteer days recorded for 2013. • Opportunities to be maintained as above. 	
Gap and map analysis of health/wellbeing and natural environment projects taking place in Kent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gap and map analysis of health/wellbeing and natural environment projects took place in Kent (Kent LNP). Results are available from the Kent Nature Partnership website. 	

Below are some examples of how districts/borough authorities have been working to increase access to the natural and historic environment through volunteering options.

Local authority	Activity
Ashford Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through partnership working the Council promote volunteering outdoor opportunities and working which achieve a high level of uptake. They work extensively with the Kent Wildlife Trust in sustainable habitat management as well as with many other voluntary groups such as the South Willesborough and New Town Environment Group, the Kentish Stour Countryside Project and the Conservation volunteers / Green Gym.
Canterbury City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of volunteer opportunities are listed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Westgate Parks project: Activity Plan - delivery HLF grant 100 volunteer days per year.

Local authority	Activity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Herne Bay in Bloom – variable but usually a group of 12 volunteers. ○ Whitstable in Bloom - variable but usually a group of 12 volunteers. ○ Canterbury in Bloom – variable but usually a group of 50 volunteers engaged in a variety of activities. ○ Queen Elizabeth II parks – volunteers involved in specific projects and community engagement.
Dover District Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through Up on the Downs there are a number of partners who offer outdoor volunteering opportunities in the area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Canterbury Archaeological Trust; ○ Kent Wildlife Trust; ○ National trust and White Cliffs Countryside Partnership. • Level of uptake is generally good but there is evidence that it is in decline and not very diverse demographically. This is something that Up on the Downs is trying to address through its work. • Through the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (WCCP) has a number of volunteering opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conservation volunteers; ○ Volunteer rangers, walk leaders and junior Rangers. • There were around 3,000 volunteer days in 2013/14.
Swale Borough Council	No direct opportunities.
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During 2012/13 11,300 hours of volunteer time were spent on conservation projects. 1,830 adults and children attended a conservation event/activity e.g. pond dipping, bug safari, bat walk, and 10 youth groups engaged in after school conservation projects.